



Minutes

Bicycle & Trails Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 27, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Hauge called the meeting to order at 6:20pm

PRESENT: Hauge, Rome, McCann and Clark

ABSENT: Steven Cheu
Parks and Recreation Commissioner Katharine Hardt-Mason

STAFF: Public Works Senior Engineer Julie Behzad

DECLARATION - POSTING OF AGENDA: Ms. Behzad certified that this meeting's agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ms. Behzad opened the meeting to public comments. There being no comments, the public comments period was closed.

MINUTES: The minutes for the February 23, 2006 meeting were unanimously approved.

ORAL REPORTS:

1. * Bikeways Master Plan Quarterly Report

Ms. Behzad noted that the Bikeways Master Plan Quarterly Report was presented at the February meeting by David Gittleston, and since then there have been no other changes to the report. She asked if any members had any questions, and added that the next report will be presented at the June meeting.

*** PRC Recommendation for Purchase of Bike Racks**

Ms. Behzad reported that this item was presented on March 21, 2006 to PRC, who approved BTAC's request to purchase 4 portable bike racks. Ms. Behzad asked the members where the racks will be stored. Member McCann mentioned that he was present at the PRC meeting and PRC stated that the racks would be City of Morgan Hill property and therefore should be stored at a city facility.

Member Clark said that they are lightweight and when closed, they can fit in a golf bag. Ms. Behzad offered that in this case, we can store the racks at the Public Works facility. She also mentioned that the City has requested that BTAC should still pursue fundraising for future items. BTAC was advised that they can begin looking into licensing bicycles and enter into an agreement to volunteer their time to process the licenses and share the revenue with the City of Morgan Hill. This item was continued to the next meeting when Member Cheu will be present to talk about the pros and cons regarding licensing.

*** Llagas Creek Trail/Wildlife Trail**

Ms. Behzad reviewed the status of the W. Little Llagas Creek Wildlife Trail project. She noted that the Trail segment between Edmundson and Edes Court is out to bid. The City is planning to utilize the grant to complete as many segments as possible. The next phase is between Watsonville and La Crosse.

*** Trails Master Plan Grant Status**

Ms. Behzad reported that the kick-off meeting with the consultant was held. They are in the process of putting a committee together to assist them with the Master Plan. David Gittleson has contacted Member Clark and Kathrine Hardt-Mason to be on the committee to assist the consultant.

2. Countywide Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee Update (BPAC)

Member Hauge reported that they talked about Expressways and their issues with expressways. It seems that most of the issues raised were discussed and addressed. In general, expressways are off limits to bicyclists but Government Code does not forbid using bicycles on the expressway if there is no other access. They also talked about bicycle racks being offered to public agencies using a BAAQM grant.

3. Parks and Recreation Representative

Ms. Hardt Mason was not present at the meeting.

BUSINESS

1. Bicycle Friendly Community Application

Member Hauge reported that he hasn't completed the application and he did not attend the meeting. Member Hauge said that he would e-mail the link to all BTAC members to get their assistance to complete the application.

2. Approve 06-07 TDA Article 3 Application for Grant Funding for “Updating the 2001 Bikeways Master Plan”

Ms. Behzad explained the grant opportunity for the City. She noted that the amount of funding available is sufficient for updating our Bikeways Master Plan, but no other projects. All the members approved the application, and asked Ms. Behzad to invite the consultant to a BTAC meeting once the City retains one.

3. Bike Parking at Various Community Events

Member Cheu was not present at the meeting. Member Clark mentioned that he would attend the next coordination meeting.

4. Purchase of Bike Racks

Member Clark said that Member Cheu needs to be contacted to get the information on the portable Bike Racks so they can be ordered.

5. Discussion and Concerns about Pedestrians (BTAC to BPAC)

Member Clark opened the discussion to all the members. Member Rome mentioned that she has done some research on other agencies. There are some cities that have a BPAC committee that includes pedestrians while there are other agencies that don't include them. All the members agreed that BTAC already has enough responsibilities with regard to bicycle issues and they did not support adding pedestrian issues to those responsibilities. It was also mentioned that since we just started working on the Trails Master Plan, they would like to focus on trails. Member Clark moved to not recommend converting to BPAC, and all the members unanimously agreed.

6. Bike to Work Week

Member McCann was contacted by VTA to see if Morgan Hill will have an energizer station this year. Member Clark moved to sponsor Bike to Work Day in Morgan Hill. All the members approved the motion. Member McCann will attend the meetings.

7. Educational Programs Update

Member Clark mentioned that Mark Hubbell started this idea. Member Hauge presented the program to his child's school. Unfortunately, the program takes a lot of effort and members agreed to drop this item.

8. Nominations for Cycling Award

After extensive discussion, Mark Hubbell was nominated to receive the next Cycling Award since he is leaving the advisory committee.

9. Vacancies and Expiring Terms

Ms. Behzad reviewed all the member's terms with focus on the expiring terms. Members asked Ms. Behzad to send them the application and advertisement so they can help with the recruitment process.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Member McCann attended the meeting for Art Ala Carte in April. Due to the budget and lack of funds, the City will not hold Art Ala Carte at this time. The City asked if any volunteers would like to put the event together. Member McCann will continue to attend the meetings.
- Member Clark mentioned that he attended the last PRC meeting and they approved adding a BMX site. Member Clark is working with Mori Struve and getting donations from Fox Racing to help fund the BMX Park.
- Member Clark has applied for a PRC Commissioner position. He was interviewed with four other applicants. He asked if there would have been any conflict with being a member on both PRC and BTAC, and the answer given was that there was no conflict.
- Almaden Cycling Club held a tour where they had over 2400 riders.

REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

(This is the opportunity for any committee member to have an item placed on a future agenda.)

- Bike Parking at various events – Member Clark
- VTA BPAC Representative
- Bikeways Master Plan Quarterly Report at June, 2006 meeting
- Invite Bikeways Master Plan Consultant to future BTAC meeting
- Bicycle Licensing – Member Cheu

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm. The next meeting will be held on May 25, 2006 at 6:15 pm.